



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

May 12, 2003

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

MOTION TO SUPPORT DEVELOPMENT OF A FEDERAL GUEST WORKER'S PERMIT PROGRAM--ITEM NO. 14, AGENDA OF MAY 13, 2003

Item No. 14 on the May 13, 2003 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Antonovich that the Board of Supervisors instruct the County's Legislative Advocates in Washington, D.C. to work with the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services to develop a guest worker's permit program, which would require a bond for individuals that enter the country.

There have been no bills introduced in this session of Congress which would establish a guest worker permit program. Existing Federal law provides for temporary worker visas for non-citizens who have special skills or an occupation where there is a labor shortage. These programs have labor market tests, which are intended to mitigate against displacing U. S. citizens from jobs.

Under current law, legal immigrants may be required to post bonds if they, otherwise, are likely to become a "public charge" – that is, receive public cash assistance. Non-cash benefits, such as public health services and medical care other than institutionalization for long-term care, are not subject to public charge consideration. In practice, public charge bonds are rarely imposed on immigrants because they are relatively costly to administer and enforce.

There is no Board policy relating to guest worker permit programs. Therefore, a position on this motion is a matter for Board policy determination.

DEJ:GK
MAL:DRS:ib

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Legislative Strategist

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